Railway Accidents

2966. SHRIMATI SUSHMA SWARAJ :
SHRI RAM JETHMALANI :

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that the number of accidents is constantly on rise in the railways inspite of strict vigilance;

(b) if so, what is the number of accidents that took place during last three years i.e. 1990-91, 1991-92 and 1992-93 and upto July, 1993 separately;

(c) whether it is also a fact that enquiry into these accidents has been conducted through various agencies;

(d) if so, the number of accidents in regard to which enquiries were ordered and the number of reports of the enquiries into these accidents, recovered out of them so far;

(e) whether it is a fact that human error was the cause of most of the accidents, reports in respect of which have been recovered so far; and

(f) if so, whether immediate and far reaching measures have been taken by the Government to bring about improvement in the administration, if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI K. C. LENKA) : (a) No, Sir. In fact, for the 8th consecutive year, the number of accidents have declined.

(b) The number of consequential train accidents is as under :—

Year	No. of Accidents
1990-91	532
1991-92	530
1992-93	524
April-July, 1993	178

(c) and (d) Each and every accident is enquired into either by departmental or inter-departmental enquiry committees or by the Commissioners of Railway Safety.

(e) Yes, Sir.

(f) The Safety measures taken to avoid accidents are reviewed from time to time and new measures are also introduced on the basis of the recommendations of the enquiries conducted by the Commissioners of Railway Safety or the departmental equiry committees.

To contain human error, psychological tests have been introduced for personnel selection and job training of safety category of staff. Some of the other steps taken to avoid such accidents include removal and rehabilitation of overaged assets like track, bridges, rolling stock, etc. Intensive inspections are also carried out for signalling and telecom gears, maintenance depots of wagons and locomotives and quality of out-turn from the workshops. Staff in operational categories are given intensive training and their performances are monitored. In addition, inspection of track and examination of coaches, wagons and locomotives have been intensified. Ultrasonic testing of rails and axles is being restored to indentify fractures. Drivers are being monitored and counselled with regard to their driving techniques.

Pay Scale of Principal of Inter Colleges run under the Railways

2967. SHRI RAM RATAN RAM : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state what is the pay scale of Principal of Inter Colleges run under the Railways; what are the details of promotional prospects for them and since when the senior most Principal is working in the same post and in the same pay scale?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI K. C. LENKA) : Pay scale of Principals of Inter Colleges run under the Railways is Rs. 3000-4500. Information regarding promotional prospects for them and since when the senior most Principal is working in the same post and in the same pay scale is being collected and will be placed on the Table of the Sabha.

CBI Enquiry into the ABB Deal

2968. CHOWDHRY HARI SINGH : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government are aware that members of the Railway Convention Committee had demanded a CBI enquiry into the A.B.B. Deal ;

(b) if so, what is the reaction of Government ;

(c) whether Government propose to accept this demand, if so, by when ; and

(d) if not, what are the reasons therefor?